

Article Review

Name

Instructor

Institution

Location

Date of Submission

Cook, T. C. (2001). The effects of skilled attendants on reducing maternal deaths in developing countries: testing the medical model. *Evaluation and program planning* (25) 107 – 116.

The study by Cook was carried out with the purpose of finding out the statistical relationship between maternal deaths and skilled health attendants. After carrying out the research, Cook (2001) hoped that the findings of the research would help establish whether skilled health attendants results to a decline in maternal deaths or not.

In order to achieve the stated objective, Cook (2001) used quantitative research method that used secondary numerical data from Human Developmental report 1999, World Health Organization, and Word Bank. From the analysis of the methodology applied by Cook (2001) in the study, there are no methodological flaws since even if the study used secondary data, the sources of the secondary data were credible.

From the research, Cook (2001) made various findings. To begin with, one of the findings of the research was that on average, there are more nurses than medical doctors in developing countries while 69% of childbirths in the developing countries was found to have been attended by a Skilled Health Attendant (SKHA). Moreover, the study also found out that SKHA were vital in helping lower maternal deaths in developing countries. Moreover, the countries that had high numbers of medical doctors were found to not necessarily have low rates of maternal deaths. From those findings, the Scholar concluded that SKHAs have a bigger impact on maternal mortality than medical doctors or even nurses.

As far as whether all relevant studies have been considered by Cook (2001) it can be explained that by reading the research article, one gets the impression that the scholar has indeed considered all relevant studies since in the research article, the researcher has on numerous occasions referred to past studies.

In case of the limitations of the study, the research has expounded on the lack of consistency in healthcare terminology by international data collection organizations as the major limitation of the research. Thus, the relevant limitation of the study can be said to have been ideally expounded on by the researcher.

The conclusions of the research are based on the findings of this specific research and it can thus be explained that the conclusions are justified. On the other hand, even though the research cannot be said to have ruled out alternative findings, Cook (2001) has emphasized the need for cross national studies that evaluate the effectiveness of maternal and child health care services and services once consistency in data collection has been established. As a result, Cook (2001) noted that future studies should concentrate on establishing ancillary or midlevel health care professionals, in order to ascertain their impact on maternal deaths in developing countries.

The research by Cook (2001) focused on the topic of maternal deaths which is definitely a public administration issue. In that view, it can therefore be mentioned that the findings of this specific research are relevant to a public administration setting as they can also be applied in administration of public health care services.